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Public Universities Teachers stage sit-in, observe 2-hour strike

DU CORRESPONDENT

Public university teachers yesterday observed two-hour work abstention, demanding the removal of "discriminatory provisions" from the eighth national pay scale.

Under the banner of the Federation of Bangladesh University Teachers' Association, they demanded that the government issue a gazette notification, removing those provisions by January 10.

They will otherwise go on an indefinite work abstention at all public universities, except National University, from the following day.

As part of a prescheduled programme, Dhaka University teachers staged a sit-in at 11:00am in front of Aparajeyo Bangla. The demonstration



MILES TO GO ... Students from char village of Parulia under the Hatibandha upazila in Lalmonirhat crossing the Teesta to attend classes in their school in the mainland. They get boat in the rainy season, but in dry period, they have to walk the sandy land or knee-to-waist-deep water. The photo was taken a few days ago.

CHARLIE HEBDO ANNIV Man with knife shot dead by Paris police

AFP, Paris

French police shot dead a knife-wielding man yesterday as he attacked a police station in Paris, a year to the day since jihadist gunmen killed 12 people at Charlie Hebdo newspaper.

The man reportedly shouted "Allahu Akbar" (God is Greatest) and was wearing what appeared to be an explosives vest although it was later found to be a fake, police and government sources said.

News of the attack came just after President Francois Hollande concluded a sombre speech at police headquarters to mark the anniversary of the killings at Charlie Hebdo's offices on January 7, 2015.

"On Thursday morning, a man attempted to attack a policeman at the reception of the police station before being hit by shots from the police," interior ministry spokesman Pierre-Henry Brandet said.

Explosives experts were deployed to the scene in the multi-ethnic Goutte d'Or district, close to the Gare du Nord international station.

The man was found to have been wearing a pouch

Dhaka, Riyadh to cooperate in fighting terror

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh and Saudi Arabia have expressed their firm resolve to cooperate in the fight against terrorism and extremism through meaningful cooperation.

Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali, who met his Saudi counterpart Adel bin Ahmed Al-Jubeir in Riyadh on Wednesday, discussed the issue at a meeting, according to a foreign ministry press release issued yesterday.

However, neither of the governments released any details on how they would cooperate to combat terrorism.

Bangladesh joined as a founder member of the Saudi Arabia-led 34-nation Islamic Military Coalition, and there was indication that the foreign minister was due to discuss details about the alliance,

Not ready to face catastrophe

Earthquake preparedness in dismal state; awareness, rescue equipment inadequate

TAWFIQUE ALI

With the risk of a major earthquake to cause colossal devastation any time, Bangladesh still lacks elementary awareness with preparedness lying in a deplorable state, according to eminent seismic experts.

Unplanned urbanisation on filled-up marshland and low-lying flood flow zones has left the capital highly vulnerable to earthquake hazards, they warn.

Despite setting a target of creating 62,000 trained rescue volunteers, the six years of second Comprehensive Disaster Management Programme (CDMP) could not train up even half of them, according to Programme Director Md Abdul Qayyum.

A 7.5-magnitude earthquake in or close to Bangladesh territory would result in collapse of or severe damage to more than 70,000 buildings in Dhaka city as per CDMP findings, he says.

"But we have neither elementary lifesaving awareness nor adequate open space for evacuation and medical treatment. Dhaka city lacks open space required for field hospitals to take care of thousands of injured in case of a massive earthquake.

"The open space earmarked in the earthquake contingency plan for Dhaka in some cases has been illegally occupied. The government has to take an

World's first slum museum on cards

MAIL ONLINE

Mumbai, the sprawling metropolis on India's west coast, is well-known as the birthplace of Indian cinema.

But the city's neighbourhood of Dharavi was brought to international attention after the worldwide release of Danny Boyle's 2008 hit film,




PRAYER TIMING
JANUARY 8

Fazr Juma Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 5-30 12-30 4-00 5-30 7-00
JAMAAT 6-05 1-15 4-15 5-35 7-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



A haven for migratory birds

SOHRAB HOSSAIN, Patuakhali

The chirping sound of migratory birds pierces the silence at Char Moazzin in Patuakhali district.

They flap their wings and fly across the river blissfully. Some perch on the edge of the shore along the river, feed on small fishes and drink water.

The newly emerged shoal by the Tentulia river has been attracting these birds for about 10 years during the winter season because of nearly zero presence of humans.

Migratory birds at the Tentulia river char in Patuakhali-Bhola bordering area.

PHOTO: STAR SEE PAGE 17 COL 2

Suicide bomb kills 50 at Libya police school

AFP, Zliten

A suicide truck bombing on a police training centre in Libya's western city of Zliten killed at least 50 people yesterday, in one of the deadliest attacks yet to hit the strife-torn country.

A suicide bomber detonated an explosives-laden truck used for carrying water at a police school in central Zliten, a coastal city about 170 kilometres east of the capital

Tripoli, a local security source said.

A witness in Zliten told AFP some 300 men, mainly coast guards, were inside the training compound at the time of the blast.

Health ministry spokesman Ammar Mohammed Ammar said 50 to 55 people had been killed and at least 100 wounded and that victims were being treated in several hospitals. Urgent calls were issued for blood donations.

SEE PAGE 17 COL 5

Notice

Passengers are requested to show valid printed ticket and Passport/National ID/Photo ID while entering the Airport.

Civil Aviation Authority, Bangladesh

CAAB/PR-156/2015/05
Date: 06-1-2016

RESOLVING PAY SCALE ROW Govt to form taskforce

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has decided to form a taskforce to sort out the anomalies in the new pay scale against which a section of civil servants is now protesting.

The decision came yesterday after a meeting at the finance ministry where Abul Kalam Azad, principal secretary to the Prime Minister's Office, held a discussion with Prokrihi-BCS Somonnoy (coordination) Committee, an umbrella of 26 BCS cadre services and non-cadre services except admin cadre.

Secretaries of the finance division, the education ministry and the public administration ministry were present in the meeting.

টেকসই ও নবায়নযোগ্য জ্বালানি উন্নয়ন কর্তৃপক্ষ (স্রেডা)

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জ্বালানি সাশ্রয়ের অনুরোধ

- অপ্রয়োজনে ঘরের বাতি, পাখা, এসি, গ্যাসের চুলা জ্বালিয়ে রাখবেন না।
- গরম খাবার রেফ্রিজারেটরে রাখবেন না, ঠান্ডা হলে তারপর রাখুন।
- চার্জ হয়ে গেলে মোবাইল ফোন বা ল্যাপটপের চার্জার সকেট থেকে খুলে রাখুন।
- দাঁত ব্রাশ বা গোসলের সময় পানির কল খুলে রাখবেন না।
- উন্নত চুলা ব্যবহারে জ্বালানি বাঁচবে, খরচ কমবে এবং শ্বাসকষ্ট বন্ধ হবে।
- দিনের বেলা বাতি না জ্বালিয়ে ঘরের/অফিস কক্ষের পর্দা সরিয়ে দিন, সূর্যের আলো ব্যবহার করুন।
- বাসার ছাদে সোলার প্যানেল ব্যবহার করুন, বিদ্যুৎ খরচ কমান।
- জ্বালানি সাশ্রয়ী বৈদ্যুতিক যন্ত্রপাতি ব্যবহার করুন। প্রয়োজনে বিশেষজ্ঞের পরামর্শ নিন।
- পুরানো বাতি পাল্টে জ্বালানি সাশ্রয়ী এল.ই.ডি বাতি ব্যবহার করুন।

চেয়ারম্যান স্রেডা